

**NOTICE OF
TENTATIVE
DECISION TO
APPROVE**

NO. MI0471064

Notice is hereby given by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining of its tentative decision to approve the Large Mining Operations Notice of Intention (Notice) for the Cottonwood Mine. Mining activities will affect the following area: Section 34: NW 1/4NW 1/4, S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NE1/4, N1/2, SE1/4,

Section 35: N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4, S1/2, SE1/4 Township 10, South, Range 21East, Section 1 NE1/4NE1/4, Township 11 South, Range 21East Uintah County, Utah.

Lexco Corporation has filed a notice to expand an existing small mining project to a large mining operation. Reclamation surety will be posted to assure reclamation of the 5 acre disturbance. The mine is an underground mining operation. No surface effects of subsidence are expected. Gilsonite is mined from veins and extracted from the mine through a vacuum lift system. The gilsonite is shipped from the mine in a covered truck. After mining, all surface structures will be removed and shafts plugged. Mine pads and roads will be reconstructed to blend with surrounding topography. The

surface will be ripped, topsoiled and seeded. The reclaimed area will be returned to its premining land use of wildlife habitat and grazing.

~~Any person or agency~~ aggrieved by this tentative decision may file a written protest within thirty

(30) days of the date of publication to Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director of Mining, Division of Oil,

Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 121 0, Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah 841 14-5801,

setting forth factual reasons for the complaint.

DATED THIS 25th day of July, 2006

STATE OF UTAH
DIVISION OF OIL,
GAS AND MINING
Mary Ann Wright
Associate Director,
Mining

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF UTAH,

}SS.

County of Uintah

I, GABRIELLE JONES,

being duly sworn, depose and say, that I am the
Legals Manager of The Vernal Express, a weekly
newspaper of general circulation, published each
week at Vernal, Utah, that the notice attached
hereto was published in said newspaper
for 1 publication(s),

the first publication having been made on

the 26th of July, 2006 and the last

on the 26th day of July, 2006, that

said notice was published in the regular and entire
issue of every number of the paper during the
period and times of publication, and the same was
published in the newspaper proper and not in a
supplement.

By.....

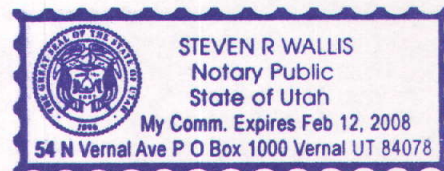
Gabrielle Jones

Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this
26th day of July A.D. 2006

Steve R. Wallis

Notary Public, Residence, Vernal, Utah



RECEIVED
AUG 02 2006
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

VERNAL Express

P.O. BOX 1000
VERANL, UTAH 84078
PHONE (435) 789-3511

STATE OF UTAH NATURAL RESOURCES
1594 WEST NORTH TEMPLE, STE. 1210
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84114-5801

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DETACH AND MAIL WITH YOUR CHECK. YOU CANCELLED CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT

Date	Description	Amount
07/26/2006	M/047/064	\$40.00
Lines:80 Times: 1		

1.5% Interest will be charged on all accounts not paid on or before the 10th of the following month.